



FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

Georgia law (*O.C.G.A 25-10-1 Regulation of Fireworks*) bans the possession and use of fireworks in the state. The Georgia legislature has defined illegal fireworks as any object that propels itself or a projectile – such as bottle rockets and roman candles - and any item that produces a report (“bang”) – such as firecrackers and bottle rockets. Generally, any type of sparkler, sparkling shower, and whirling shower items are permitted under Georgia law.

Savannah Fire & Emergency Services encourages citizens to play it safe around legal fireworks, follow safety precautions and to read and follow all label warnings and instructions before using legal fireworks.

Citizens are reminded of the need for adult supervision of children, and are encouraged to purchase legal fireworks from Georgia retailers who sell items in compliance with state law. Neighboring state retailers have no burden to comply with Georgia laws. The fireworks purchased from these retailers may actually be illegal in Georgia.

Following a few safety tips can prevent injuries and promote safe celebrations:

- ▶ Obey state and local laws
- ▶ Read and follow all label warnings & directions
- ▶ Use fireworks outdoors only
- ▶ Use fireworks on smooth, level surfaces and away from buildings & flammable materials
- ▶ Use fireworks only as intended - Never combine or alter fireworks
- ▶ Never try to re-light fireworks that malfunction (“duds”)
- ▶ Always have a water supply nearby (hose or bucket)
- ▶ Spectators should maintain a safe distance from fireworks
- ▶ Never use homemade fireworks. Report illegal explosives
- ▶ Adult supervision of children is essential, even with sparklers
- ▶ Forego backyard celebrations and enjoy professionally staged fireworks displays